

## News Release

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### **EIGHTY NEBRASKA COUNTIES ELIGIBLE FOR USDA EMERGENCY LOANS**

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA (June 23, 2008) – Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director, Milton Rogers, announced today that family farmers in 54 Nebraska counties are eligible to apply for low interest Emergency (EM) loans due to physical and production losses caused by severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding that occurred from May 22, 2008 and continuing. The 54 Nebraska counties that were declared a disaster area became eligible for disaster assistance due to a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration signed on June 20, 2008. The primary counties named are:

Adams	Chase	Gage	Kearney	Otoe	Saunders
Blaine	Colfax	Garfield	Keya Paha	Phelps	Seward
Boone	Cuming	Gosper	Lancaster	Platte	Sherman
Boyd	Custer	Hall	Lincoln	Polk	Stanton
Brown	Dawson	Hamilton	Logan	Red Willow	Thayer
Buffalo	Douglas	Hayes	Loup	Richardson	Thomas
Burt	Fillmore	Holt	McPherson	Rock	Thurston
Butler	Frontier	Howard	Merrick	Saline	Webster
Cass	Furnas	Jefferson	Nance	Sarpy	York

In addition, 26 Nebraska counties became eligible for this assistance because they are contiguous to one or more of the primary designated counties. These counties are:

Antelope	Dixon	Harlan	Keith	Nuckolls	Valley
Arthur	Dodge	Hitchcock	Knox	Pawnee	Washington
Cherry	Dundy	Hooker	Madison	Perkins	Wayne
Clay	Franklin	Johnson	Nemaha	Pierce	Wheeler
Dakota	Greeley				

Emergency loan applications are available and must be submitted through the local FSA county office from any applicant who qualifies for a physical or production loss (at least a 30 percent reduction from normal) in a single enterprise from this disaster in these counties. To qualify for an EM loan, an applicant must be an established family farm operator; provide evidence of having suffered a qualifying physical or production loss; be unable to obtain suitable credit from a source other than FSA. The low interest loans may cover up to 100 percent of their actual production or physical losses, to a maximum amount of \$500,000. The loan applicants must show ability to repay the loan and the loan must be adequately secured. FSA loans for production losses may be used to buy feed, seed, fertilizer, livestock, or to refinance certain debts. FSA loans for physical losses may be used to repair or replace the property that was damaged or lost. The current interest rate for the EM loans is 3.75%. The deadline for submitting applications is February 20, 2009.

In addition to the Emergency (EM) Loan Program, the FSA has other Direct and Guaranteed

Farm Operating and Farm Ownership Loan Programs, which can be considered in assisting farmers to recover from their losses. Additional information about FSA Farm Loan Programs is available at [www.fsa.usda.gov/dafl](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafl).

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